What is claimed is:

1. A computer implemented graphical user interface comprising a manipulator enabling alteration of a scale of an object displayed by a computer by altering a dimension of a graphic representation of an active region of data on said computer, said dimension being approximately equal to a limit.

2. The graphical user interface of claim 1 wherein alteration of said dimension of said graphic representation when said dimension is approximately equal to a maximum causes said scale of said object to be minified.

3. The graphical user interface of claim 1 wherein alteration of said dimension of said graphic representation when said dimension is approximately equal to a minimum causes said scale of said object to be magnified.

4. The graphical user interface of claim 1 wherein said dimension of said graphic representation is a diagonal of a rectangle.

5. The computer implemented graphical user interface of claim 1 wherein said computer on which said interface is implemented is a personal computer.

6. The computer implemented graphical user interface of claim 1 wherein said computer on which said interface is implemented is a handheld electronic device.

7. A computer implemented graphical user interface comprising a manipulator enabling a user of a computer to alter a size of an active region of an information area on said computer between a plurality of limits by interaction of said manipulator with a dimension of a graphic representation of said active region and to alter a scale of an object displayed by said computer by interaction of said

manipulator and said graphic representation having said dimension approximately equal to a said limit.

8. The graphical user interface of claim 7 wherein said scale of said displayed object is minified by interaction of said manipulator and said graphic representation when said dimension is at a maximum limit.

9. The graphical user interface of claim 7 wherein said scale of said displayed object is magnified by interaction of said manipulator and said graphic representation when said dimension is at a minimum limit.

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10. The manipulator of claim 7 further enabling a user to move said active region relative to said information area by a second interaction of said manipulator and said graphic representation.

11. The manipulator of claim 7 wherein said interaction of said manipulator and said graphic representation is accomplished with a mouse.

12. A computer implemented graphical user interface comprising a manipulator enabling a user to alter a size of an active region of an information area on said computer by a first user selected interaction with a graphic representation of said active region and to alter a scale of an object displayed by said computer by a second user selected interaction with said graphic representation.

13. The graphical user interface of claim 12 further enabling a user to move said active region relative to said information area by a third user selected interaction of said manipulator and said graphic representation.

14. The graphical user interface of claim 12 wherein said first user selected interaction and said second user selected interaction of said manipulator and said active area are accomplished with a mouse.

15. The graphical user interface of claim 12 wherein said scale of said object is altered to zoom in on said object when said second user selected interaction would decrease said size of said graphic representation.

16. The graphical user interface of claim 12 wherein said scale of said object is altered to zoom out on said object when said second user selected interaction would increase said size of said graphic representation.

17. A computer implemented graphical user interface comprising:

(a) graphic representation of an active region of an information area;

(b) a positioning tool enabling said user to move said active region relative to said information area by a first user selected interaction of said positioning tool with said graphic representation;

(c) a sizing tool enabling said user to alter a size of said active region between a plurality of limits by a second user selected interaction of said sizing tool with said graphic representation; and

(d) a scaling tool enabling said user to alter a scale of an object displayed by said computer by interaction of said scaling tool with said graphical representation having a size approximately equaling a said limit.

18. The graphical user interface of claim 17 wherein said scale of said object is altered to zoom in when said interaction of said scaling tool is to decrease said size of said graphical representation when said size limit is approximately a minimum.

19. The graphical user interface of claim 17 wherein said scale of said object is altered to zoom out when said interaction of said scaling tool is to increase said size of said graphical representation when said size limit is approximately a maximum.

20. The graphical user interface of claim 17 wherein said first user selected interaction and said second user selected interaction are accomplished with a mouse.

21. The graphical user interface of claim 17 wherein said interaction of said scaling tool with said graphical representation is accomplished with a computer mouse.

22. A computer implemented graphical user interface comprising:
(a) a graphic representation of an active region of an information area;
(b) a positioning tool enabling said user to move said active region relative to said information area by a first user selected interaction of said positioning tool with said graphic representation;
(c) a sizing tool enabling said user to alter a size of said active region by a second user selected interaction of said sizing tool with said graphic representation; and
(d) a scaling tool enabling said user to alter a scale of an object displayed by said computer by a third user selected interaction of said scaling tool with said graphical representation.

23. The graphical user interface of claim 22 where said graphic representation of said active region has a rectangular shape.

24. The graphical user interface of claim 22 wherein selection of said positioning tool, said sizing tool and said scaling tool are accomplished with a computer mouse.

25. The graphical user interface of claim 22 wherein said first user selected interaction, said second user selected interaction and said third user selected interaction are accomplished with a mouse.

26. The graphical user interface of claim 22 wherein alteration of said scale of said object to zoom out is accomplished by said third user selected interaction to increase a dimension of said graphical representation.

27. The graphical user interface of claim 22 wherein alteration of said scale of said object to zoom in is accomplished by said third user selected interaction to decrease a dimension of said graphical representation.

28. A method of processing data on a computer comprising the steps of:
(a) selecting an active region from a data area on said computer;
(b) representing said active region as a graphic on a display;
(c) altering a portion of said data area included in said active region by altering a dimension of said graphic between a plurality of limits by interaction of a cursor and said graphic; and
(d) altering said data included in said active region to change a scale of an object visible on said display by interaction of said cursor with said graphic having said dimension approximately equal to a said limit.

29. The method of claim 28 wherein said data included in said active region is altered to minify said object by interaction of said cursor to increase a dimension of said graphic when said dimension is approximately equal to a maximum dimension.

30. The method of claim 28 wherein said data included in said active region is altered to magnify said object by interaction of said cursor to decrease a

dimension of said graphic when said dimension is approximately equal to a minimum dimension.

31. The method of claim 28 further comprising the step of altering said data included in said active area to change a graphical position of said active region relative to said data area by interaction of said cursor and said graphic.

32. The computer implemented graphical user interface of claim 28 wherein said computer on which said interface is implemented is a personal computer.

33. The computer implemented graphical user interface of claim 28 wherein said computer on which said interface is implemented is a handheld electronic device.

34. A method of processing data on a computer comprising the steps of:
    (a) selecting an active region from a data area on said computer;
    (b) representing said active region as a graphic on a display;
    (c) altering a portion of said data area included in said active region by altering a dimension of said graphic by a first user selected interaction of a cursor and said graphic; and
    (d) altering said data included in said active region to change a scale of an object visible on said display by a second user selected interaction of said cursor with said graphic.

35. The method of claim 34 further comprising the step of altering said data included in said active area to change a graphical position of said active region relative to said data area by a third user selected interaction of said cursor and said graphic.

36. The method of claim 34 wherein said data included in said active region is altered to minify said object by said second user selected interaction of said cursor to increase a dimension of said graphic.

37. The method of claim 34 wherein said data included in said active region is altered to magnify said object by said second user selected interaction of said cursor to decrease a dimension of said graphic.

38. The method of claim 34 further comprising the step of altering said data included in said active area to change a graphical position of said active region relative to said data area by a third user selected interaction of said cursor and said graphic.

39. The computer implemented graphical user interface of claim 34 wherein said computer on which said interface is implemented is a personal computer.

40. The computer implemented graphical user interface of claim 34 wherein said computer on which said interface is implemented is a handheld electronic device.

41. The graphical user interface of claim 40 wherein said first user selected interaction, said second user selected interaction and said third user selected interaction are accomplished with a mouse.